



Vol. 3 Issue 1 January 2020

# IMPACT UPDATE

Protecting, Preventing, Providing

Larry Hogan  
Governor

Boyd K. Rutherford  
Lt. Governor

Colonel William Pallozzi  
Superintendent

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## 49 New Troopers Join 'Maryland's Finest' During Graduation Of Class 150

(WESTMINSTER, MD) – As state officials and proud family members looked on, trooper candidates raised their right hands on Dec. 20th and took an oath to serve and protect the people of Maryland as they officially became state troopers during the graduation ceremony for the 150th Maryland State Police Trooper Candidate Class.

The 49 members of Trooper Candidate Class 150 completed six months of a residential police training academy. During months of strict discipline and a demanding schedule, the trooper candidates received instruction in criminal and traffic laws, emergency care, emergency driving, physical training, and scenario-based training that included de-escalation and conflict resolution.

Among the members of the class, five have prior military experience, five previously worked in law enforcement or corrections and six were Maryland State Police cadets. Six are certified paramedics and will be transferring to the Aviation Command following their field training.

Twenty-nine of the recruits have college degrees and 26 are enrolled in the concurrent Associate of Arts program with Frederick Community College and have been obtaining degrees in criminal justice as they attend the Academy.

Following a brief period of leave, the new troopers will report to barracks across Maryland to begin eight weeks of practical instruction with field training troopers. Upon successful completion of that training, they will patrol alone.

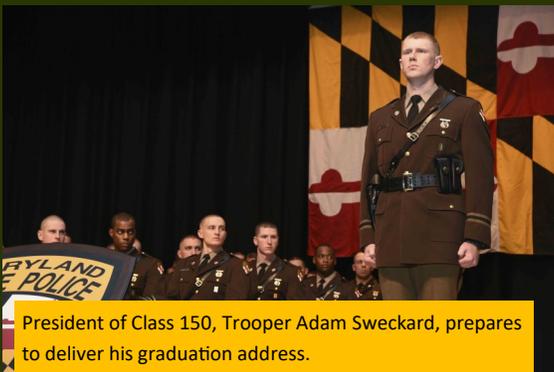


# IMPACT UPDATE

## PHOTOS: 150th Trooper Candidate Class Graduation



L to R: Col. William Pallozzi, Lt. Gov. Boyd Rutherford, MD  
Adjutant General Timothy Gowen, Lt. Col. Dalaine Brady



President of Class 150, Trooper Adam Sweckard, prepares  
to deliver his graduation address.



Questions or comments? Email us at [msp.media@maryland.gov](mailto:msp.media@maryland.gov) or call 410-653-4236



# IMPACT UPDATE

## Troopers Spread Holiday Cheer With 'Shop With A Cop,' And Other Toy Donation Events

Troopers from Western Maryland to the Baltimore area to Southern Maryland spread holiday cheer through various toy drives and gift donation events in December.

In Hagerstown, 22 troopers teamed with Walmart for the barrack's second annual "Shop with a Cop" event. Other community partners included Emma K Doub Elementary School, Girl Scouts of America and the Boys and Girls Club of Washington County. Each child had a gift list and entered the store with a trooper looking for gifts for both themselves and loved ones.

In LaPlata, 16 troopers responded to houses throughout their county to make some children's holiday brighter during the 2019 Charles County Shop With a Cop. Along with taking the children shopping, the children rode with our troopers, had breakfast and lunch with them and even controlled the emergency lights and sirens.



Troopers from the LaPlata Barrack brought smiles to the faces of Charles County children.

Troopers from the McHenry Barrack partnered with local allied agencies in Garrett County for the annual Police Providing Presents event in the area. In all, 44 middle school-aged youth from around the county went on a shopping trip. After shopping, everyone was treated to lunch and games at the Garrett County fairgrounds while their gifts were wrapped.

Personnel from the Licensing Division were joined by members of the Golden Ring Barrack, Westminster Barrack, Forensic Sciences Division,

Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Division, and Police Communications Support Division to give 15 Baltimore City children from the Fallstaff Middle School an amazing holiday experience with their Shop With A Cop event on Dec. 21 at the Owings Mills Target.

Following a \$200 shopping spree, the children and troopers met at VFW Post 521 in Owings Mills to wrap the presents and enjoy pizza, cookies and soda.

Finally, troopers from all 23 barracks participated in the annual "It's Kindertime Toy Drive." Toys were delivered to the Kennedy Krieger Institute, Ronald McDonald House, Bea Gaddy Family Center and the Agape Christian Center. We appreciate all of your generosity this season.



Sgt. Ted Bell of the McHenry Barrack was among those who recently participated in the Police Providing Presents event in Garrett County.



# IMPACT UPDATE

## PHOTOS: MSP Spreading Holiday Cheer To Area Children



Licensing Division employee Lauren Galgan and her husband, Sgt/ Mark Galgan, participated in the LaPlata Barrack "Shop with a Cop" event.



TFC Kacie Baker and F/Sgt. Michael Taluskie were among those troopers who participated in the Hagerstown "Shop with a Cop" event.



Maryland State Police joined police and fire departments across the area in participating in the annual "It's Kindertime Toy Drive" for needy children in Baltimore City.



TFC Corey Whetzel of the McHenry Barrack was among those who participated in the Police Providing Presents event in Garrett County.



Troopers from the Bel Air Barrack participated in its third annual Shop with a Cop event in Harford County.

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# IMPACT UPDATE

## Safety Tip of the Month

As cold weather approaches, Maryland state troopers are reminding motorists to make sure their vehicles are prepared and properly equipped. Keeping a survival bag in their car is encouraged. The survival bag should include a blanket, a flashlight (with batteries) or flares, jumper cables, an extra bottle of antifreeze and windshield washer fluid.

The cold weather can take its toll on a vehicle, so check the following before traveling:

- Check the tire pressure and tread
  - Check the battery
  - Check the car's fluid levels
  - Make sure you have a good spare tire
  - Keep jumper cables handy
- Drivers are reminded their cell phones can be used to call 911 in emergencies or #77.



## Troopers Arrest Suspects In Theft Of \$400,000 Worth Of Copper Wire

(LANHAM, MD) – Maryland State Police arrested three suspects on Dec. 9th in connection with the theft of copper wire from light poles and jersey walls in Prince George's County.

The accused are identified as Mark Brunelle, 52, of Brooklyn, Maryland, Joseph Wetzel, 45, of Rocky Ridge, Maryland and James Albert, 38, of Perryville, Maryland. Brunelle and Wetzel were charged with theft \$1,500-\$25,000, theft scheme \$1,500-\$25,000 and malicious destruction of property of more than \$1,000. Albert was charged with theft \$1,500-\$25,000, theft scheme \$1,500-\$25,000, malicious destruction of property of more than \$1,000 and possession of a controlled dangerous substance.

Shortly before 2:30 a.m. on Dec. 9th, a trooper from the College Park Barrack was on patrol when he noticed a 2003 Mercury Marquis on the westbound side of Route 50 at

I-495, parked on the shoulder and unattended in an area of the road where several street lights were not illuminated.

As the trooper approached the scene in his marked patrol car, he noticed two men outside of the vehicle carrying rolls of copper wire. When two of the men, later identified as Wetzel and Albert saw the trooper, they dropped the copper and got into the Mercury. Brunelle was sitting in the driver's seat and preparing to leave the scene.

The trooper inspected the scene and noticed where the suspects had cut the wire from inside the light poles and jersey wall at that location. The trooper immediately notified the barrack of the possible copper wire theft and back-up was dispatched to his location. The three men were arrested on scene and transported to the College Park Barrack for processing. The total cost to replace the copper removed is about \$400,000.



# IMPACT UPDATE



## Maryland State Police Helicopter Hoists Injured Hiker From Ravine In Allegany County

(ALLEGANY COUNTY, MD) – A Maryland State Police Aviation Command helicopter crew hoisted a patient who was injured in a ravine in Allegany County.

About 3 p.m. on Nov. 29th, Maryland State Police received a request for assistance from the Allegany County Emergency Services Center to hoist a hiker who had suffered a leg injury.

Maryland State Police Trooper 3, based in Frederick, was dispatched to the scene. The helicopter crew configured Trooper 3 for an aerial hoist operation and arrived overhead. The pilots maneuvered

the AW-139 helicopter into position approximately 200 feet above the steep ravine and trees. A Maryland state trooper/rescue technician was then lowered to the scene to begin the preparation of the patient for the hoist evolution.

After the patient was assessed and placed into the secure hoisting device, both the patient and the trooper were hoisted up to the helicopter. When the patient was secured inside the aircraft, Trooper 3 transitioned to its medevac role and transported the patient to the Western Maryland Regional Medical Center in Cumberland, Maryland.

The Maryland State Police Aviation Command has served Maryland citizens since 1970 and operates a fleet of ten helicopters from seven bases throughout Maryland on a 24/7/365 basis. Missions include medevac, law enforcement, search & rescue, homeland security, and disaster assessment.

The success of rescues performed by the Aviation Command depends a great deal on the cooperative efforts of local fire, rescue, EMS and law enforcement agencies.



# IMPACT UPDATE

## Maryland State Police, Allied Agencies, Target Criminal Activity, Drug Use On Eastern Shore

(WICOMICO COUNTY, MD) – Maryland State Police, along with allied local and federal law enforcement agencies, partnered on Dec. 6th to target criminal activity and criminal organizations operating within Wicomico and Dorchester counties.

The initiative came under the Maryland Criminal Intelligence Network (MCIN), a criminal justice strategy coordinated at the local, state, and federal levels targeting gangs, drugs, firearms and human trafficking. MCIN is particularly focused on those criminal networks that are impacting multiple jurisdictions and accomplishes this by sharing information across borders.

In Wicomico County, enforcement efforts were based on intelligence relating to illegal drug use and sales, firearm violations and crimes of violence. In Dorchester County, the gathering of information included identifying criminal gang members and suspects of open criminal investigations and fugitive apprehension/warrant services.

Information obtained during the Dorchester County operation led to intelligence regarding a case previously investigated by the Dorchester County Narcotics Task Force.



This information was used to serve a search and seizure warrant on a targeted residence and as a direct result led to the recovery of a handgun, cocaine, fentanyl, heroin and marijuana and the arrest of a suspect. The suspect, identified as Tayron Rynell Daniel Mims, 32, of Cambridge, Md., is charged with felony drug possession and distribution charges.

Working in tandem with members of the Eastern Region Gang and Gun Units of the Maryland State Police, the following partners participated in the MCIN Eastern Shore initiative in Wicomico County: Maryland State Police Salisbury Barrack, Wicomico County Sheriff's Office, Salisbury Police Department, Delmar Police Department, and Homeland Security Investigations. In Dorchester County, the allied agencies included the Maryland State Police Easton Barrack, Cambridge

Police Department, Hurlock Police Department and Homeland Security Investigations.

The operations in both counties were made possible, in part, due to funds provided by the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention, which funds the Maryland Criminal Intelligence Network (MCIN).

During the operation, in the areas where enforcement was focused within both counties, there was a significant reduction in calls for service for crimes relating to Part I crimes. Additionally, it should be noted any person contacted during this operation who requested resources and support regarding a substance abuse issue was provided with local resources for addictions.



# IMPACT UPDATE



## MSP, Law Enforcement Partners Provide Food To Needy Families In Princess Anne

(PRINCESS ANNE, MD) -- Somerset Law Enforcement Unites to Tackle Hunger (SLEUTH), a partnership of Somerset County law enforcement agencies, led by the Maryland State Police Princess Anne Barrack, held a Thanksgiving food distribution event for more than 30 families in the area.

In addition to the Maryland State Police, agencies partnering to distribute food to 53 children and 65 adults in time for the Thanksgiving holiday included the University of Maryland Eastern Shore Police Department, Somerset County Sheriff's Office, U.S. Coast Guard, Maryland Natural Resources Police, and Department of Social Services.

"I'm happy that we can help those who need food for Thanksgiving," said Princess Anne Barrack Commander Lt. Patrick Metzger, who created the SLEUTH initiative in 2015 in an effort to bring awareness to the issue of food insecurity in Somerset County. "Knowing that the population of Somerset is one of the poorest in the state with one

of the highest rates of food insecurity, it's good to know that we can provide a little help and happiness during the holiday season."

Throughout the year, SLEUTH provides outreach, activities and supplies for food insecure families throughout Somerset County. The law enforcement agencies work closely with the departments of Juvenile Services, Social Services, and Somerset County Public Schools to select families for targeted outreach that includes a quarterly food distribution, nutrition and healthy eating information, cooking instructions, connections to community resources.

Many of the families served by SLEUTH have at-risk youth with DJS or DSS involvement or are eligible for Free and Reduced Meals through Somerset County Public Schools. The Maryland Food Bank provides non-perishable food and meats for distribution.

SLEUTH's initiatives are funded in part by the Somerset County Local Management Board.



# IMPACT UPDATE

## Kickball Tournament Raises Money For Special Olympics Upper Eastern Shore Maryland

(CENTREVILLE, MD) -- Off-duty Maryland state troopers, civilians, friends and families teamed up with Special Olympics Upper Eastern Shore Maryland to share in friendly competition in November with the second annual War on the Shore charity kickball tournament.

For the second year in a row, the Maryland State Police Centreville Barrack organized a community event consisting of volunteers, families and friends to provide support for the Upper Shore Team of the Special Olympics.

Six teams participated. Each team consisted of eight to 10 troopers and two athletes from the local Special Olympics organization.



More than 60 members of the Maryland State Police voluntarily participated in this year's event, which included representation from the Maryland State Police

Centreville Barrack, Easton Barrack, JFK Highway Barrack, Criminal Enforcement Division, Automotive Safety Division and Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Division.

Again, this year, the Centreville Barrack Team brought home the championship trophy, but in the end everyone that participated walked off the field as winners.

Tremendous support was provided by Queen Anne's County Parks and Recreation, Mrs. Sharon Myrick of Special Olympics Upper Eastern Shore and First Sgt. Andrew Williams of MSP RAPID. Over \$1,000 in donations was raised to support local Special Olympics Maryland athletes.



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# IMPACT UPDATE

## Completing 2020 Census Forms Can Aid Federal Public Safety Funding for Maryland

(PIKESVILLE, MD) — While the U.S. Constitution requires the nation to conduct a national count of all living people, commonly known as a Census, every 10 years, it impacts the states in many important ways.

The Census determines representation in Congress and impacts local legislative districts. The population count is also the basis for funding critical programs and services and assists local decision-making for economic development, school construction and transportation projects as well as public health, public safety and emergency planning.

Every year, the federal government allocates

more than \$675 billion in funding based on Census data. From a public safety perspective, consider the following funding nationally from Fiscal Year 2015 alone:

- \$1.93 billion for crime victim assistance.
- \$1.72 billion for block grants for prevention and treatment of substance abuse.
- \$475 million for block grants for community health services
- \$94 million for family violence prevention and services/ grants for battered women’s shelters
- \$49 billion for safe and drug free schools



and communities state grants

- \$47.6 billion for juvenile justice and delinquency prevention allocations to the states.

Consider this: Every Marylander not counted in the Census costs the state approximately \$18,250 over 10 years. This equates to the state losing \$26.6 billion (based on historical U.S. Census undercount).

Completing your Census form ensures Maryland families, neighbors and communities receive the support they need to live, work, play and grow.

Filling out your Census form is easy and can be done in three ways, by mail, phone — and for the first time ever — online.

Remember, the U.S. Census Bureau must keep all information confidential, including a resident’s citizenship, income and other sensitive personal data. All Census information is private and protected by law in Title 13 of the U.S. Code with violations punishable by up to five years in prison and/or a \$250,000 fine.

For more information on the Census in Maryland, visit [census.maryland.gov](http://census.maryland.gov).

**The 2020 Census is accessible for everyone.**

respond online    respond by phone    mail a paper questionnaire    respond in person

**Find out more . . .**

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